

Remarks

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1 and 5 for grammatical/typographical errors. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for her thoroughness, and has amended these claims accordingly.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has correctly acknowledged that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest limitations recited in claims 3, 4, 6, 34, 44, and 45. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 3, and independent claim 31 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 34. Allowance of all pending claims, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Summary

Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to the Examiner's objections and rejections in advancing the prosecution of this case. Applicants believe all formal and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

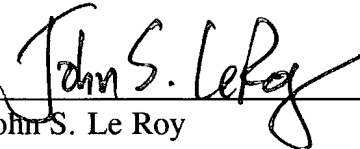
No additional fee is believed to be due as the result of the filing of this paper. However, any additional fees or credits should be applied to Deposit Account 06-1510 (Ford Global Technologies, Inc.) as authorized by the original transmittal letter in this case.

Reply to Office Action of March 12, 2004

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to discuss prompt resolution of any remaining issues necessary to place this case in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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